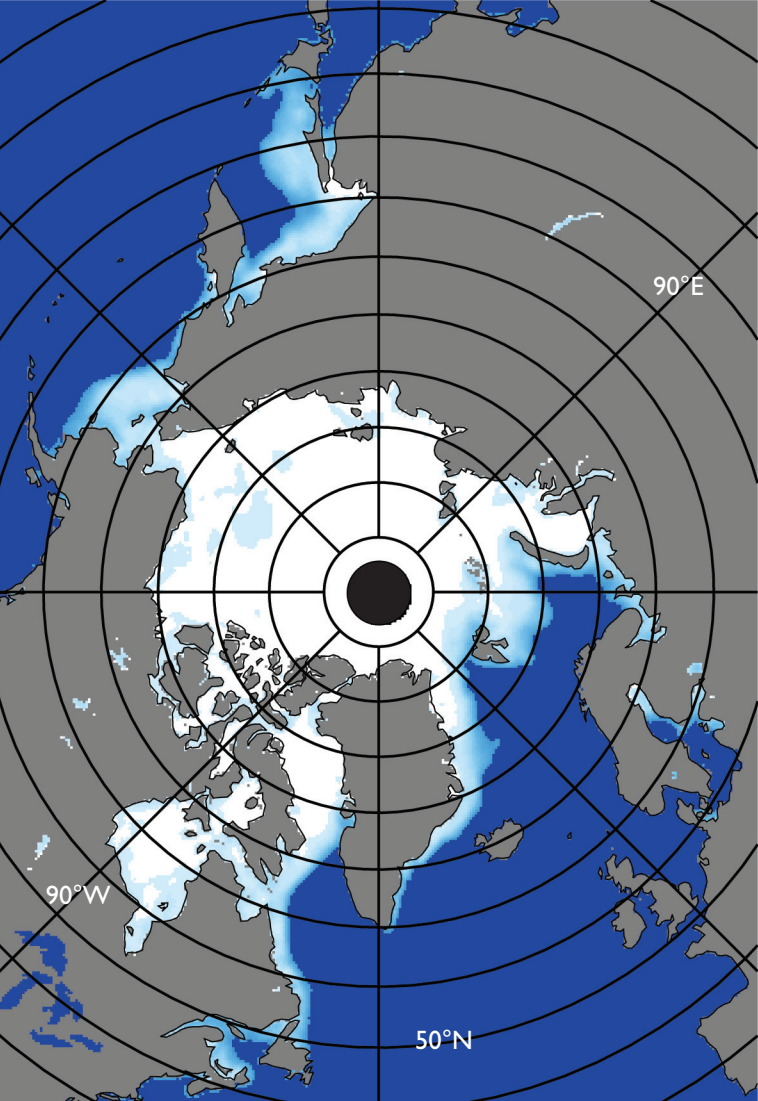
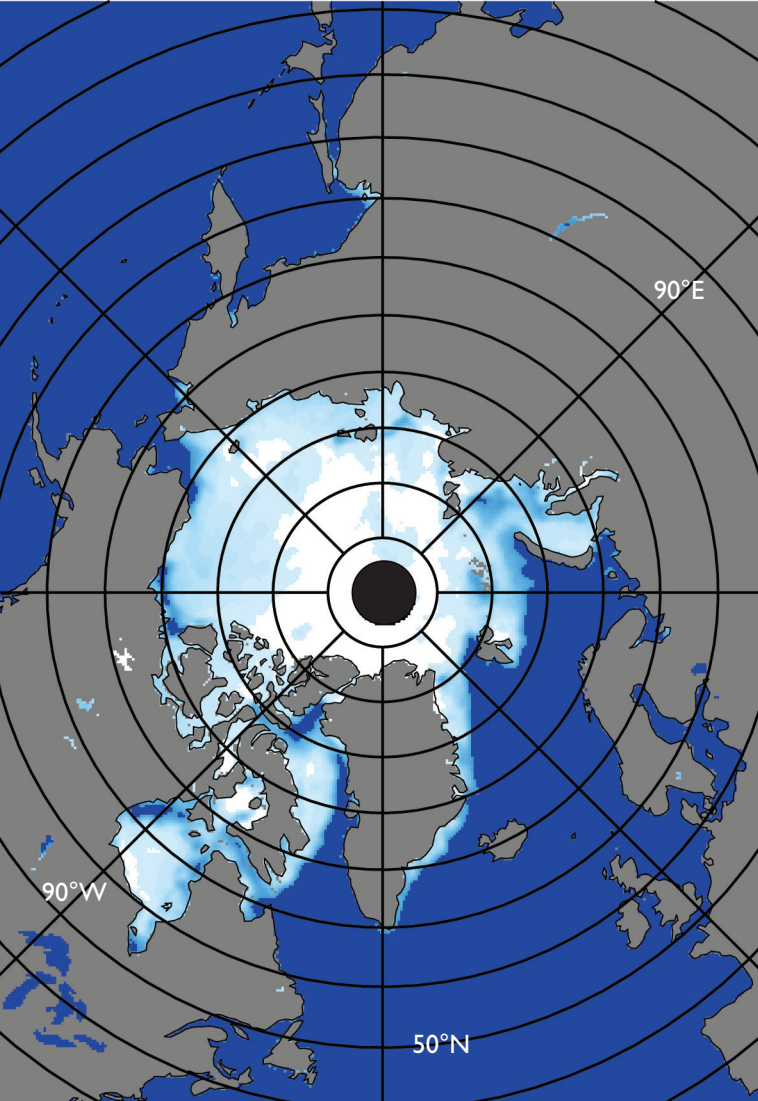


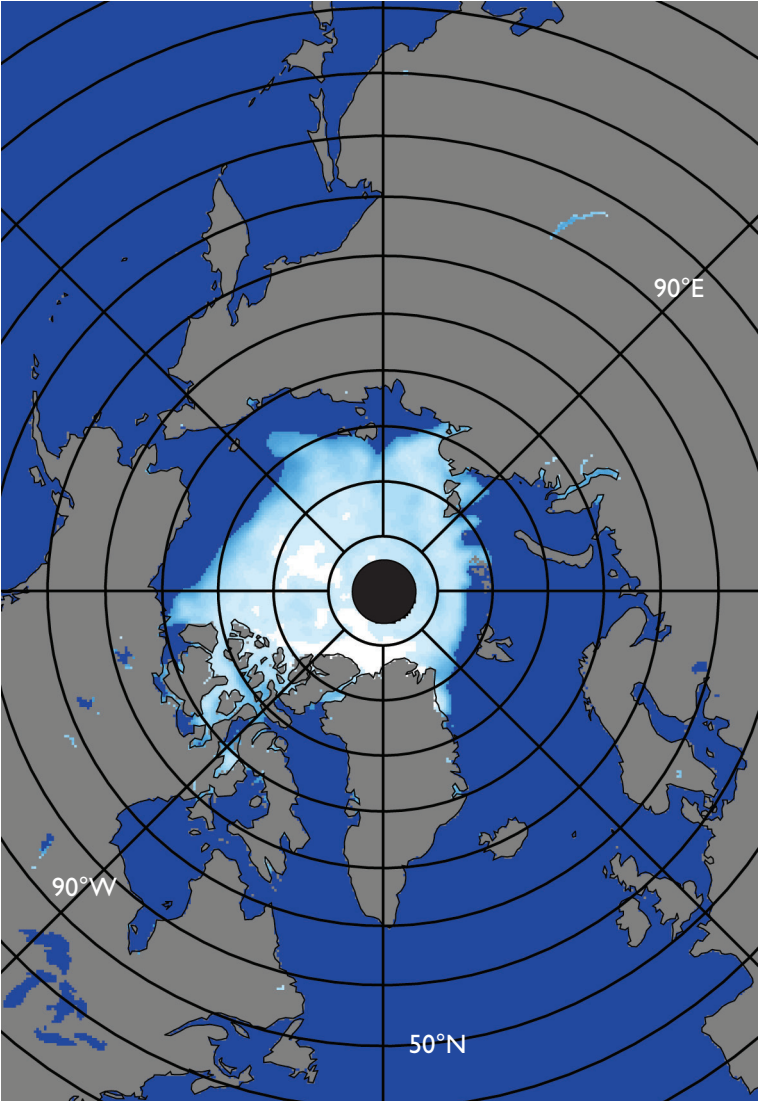
March 2004



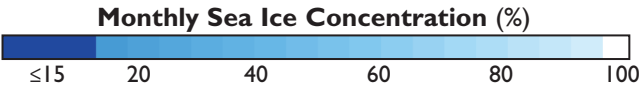
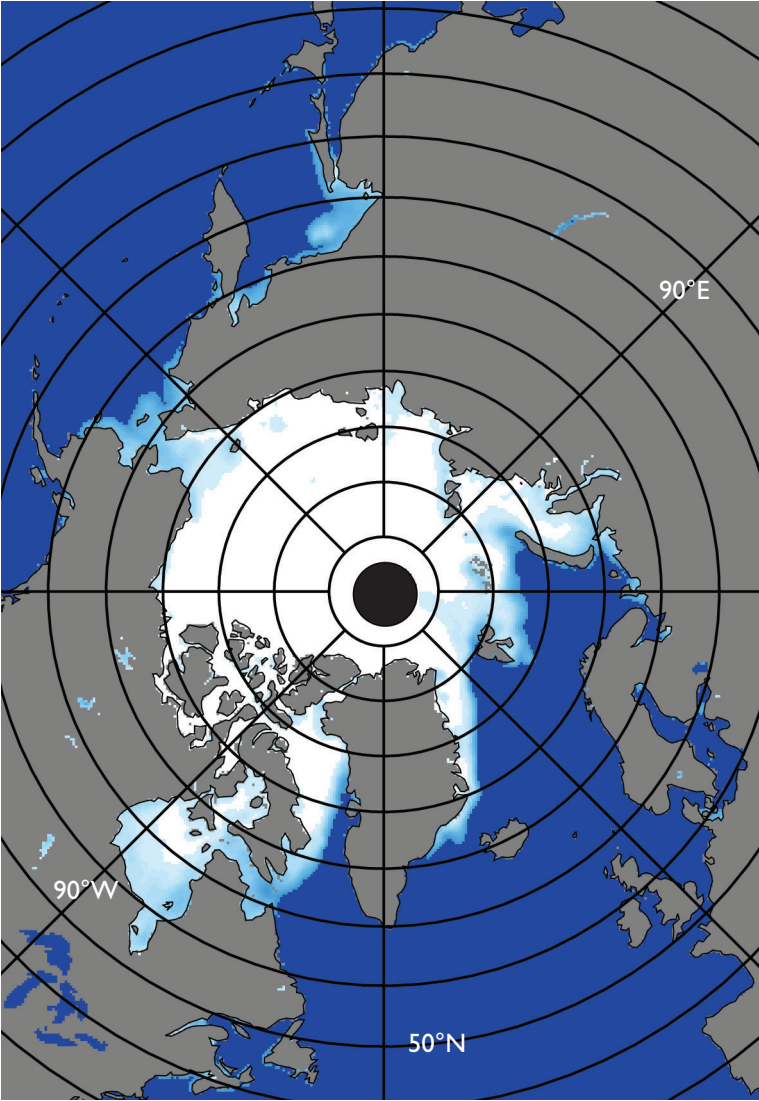
June 2004



September 2004



December 2004



Seasonal cycle of Arctic sea ice coverage in 2004, as determined from satellite data. The maps show sea ice concentrations (percent areal coverages) in March, June, September, and December, with white indicating total ice coverage and deep blue no ice coverage. March is typically the month with the greatest Arctic ice coverage and September the month with the least. No data were available from north of 87.6°N, because of the particular orbit of the satellite, and so that region has been colored black to indicate missing data. (Data from the SSM/I instrument on the DMSP F13 satellite.)